

WINSOR, Ruth— Passed peacefully away at the Dr. Leonard A. Miller Centre on Wednesday, July 11, 2012, with her family and friends by her side, Ruth Winsor aged 85 years. Predeceased by her husband Edward; daughter Diane; parents Abraham and Sarah Newell; sisters Florence, Gladys, Mildred, twin sisters Alice and Violet; and brothers Angus and Harold. Leaving to mourn with fond and loving memories, sons Frances (Cindy), Edward (Dorothy) and Lewis (Brad); grandchildren Tony (Yvette), Terry, Jason, Jennifer (Freddy), Jeff (Julie), Tina (Tony) and Sherie (Shane); great-grandchildren Jasmine, Keegan, Frances, Isabelle, Desmond, Blake and Kylie; special niece Joan Penny; special friends Ellie and Lisa; as well as a large circle of close family and friends. Resting at Barrett's Funeral Home, 328 Hamilton Ave., on Thursday, July 12 from 7-9 p.m. and on Friday, July 13, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Funeral service will be held from Barrett's Funeral Chapel on Saturday, July 14, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. with interment to follow at Mount Pleasant Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy flowers gratefully accepted or donations may be made in Ruth's memory to the Janeway Children's Hospital. To sign the online memorial guestbook, please visit www.barretts.ca

YICK, James— Passed peacefully away at his residence on July 11, 2012 surrounded by his loving family in person as well as by Skype video in Vancouver and New Zealand, James Yick, aged 100 years. Predeceased by his wife, Jean (1988). Leaving to mourn his loss his daughter, Helen Loo (Dan); sons: Wai Sun Jim (Selena) and Jim (Joyce); precious grandchildren: Jonathan, Allan, Justine, Doris, LaDonna, Tony and Kelly; six great-grandchildren as well as nieces, nephews, many other relatives and friends. Jim made Bell Island the love of his life not only as his residence but as a successful businessman there for many years. Resting at Carnell's Funeral Home, 329 Freshwater Road on Sunday from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. and on Monday from 7-9 p.m. Funeral service will take place from the Carnell Memorial Chapel on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. with interment to follow at Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Flowers are gratefully accepted or donations in Jim's memory may be made to a charity of one's choice. To send a message of condolence or to sign the memorial guestbook, please visit www.carnells.com

BRIEF

Fifty years of horse racing

St. John's — The St. John's Racing and Entertainment Centre in Goulds is celebrating 50 years of harness racing.

Keith Hutchings, minister of innovation, business and rural development, in a news release called the anniversary a "tremendous milestone."

"Operating a facility of this nature and growing an industry to where it stands today requires a collective effort and solid community partnerships. After half a century of business, it is clear that all those involved have committed to this thinking and delivered a first-rate product and facility for its customers to enjoy," Hutchings said.

The horse racing facility, at 65 Lakeview Dr., will celebrate the anniversary Sunday with Hutchings, St. John's Mayor Dennis O'Keefe and officials from the racetrack, as well as the Newfoundland Harness Horse Owners Association.

Planned events include a barbecue, music, face painting, pony rides and a historical display.

Keith Gowan, president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Harness Racing Association, said 50 years of racing in Newfoundland is reason for celebration.

"The association looks forward to many more years of harness racing and a continued strong partnership with St. John's Racing and Entertainment Centre," he said.

For more information, visit the website at www.stjre.com.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE EVENTS CALENDAR

On Wednesday, July 18 at 11:00 a.m., His Honour the Honourable John C. Crosbie, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador, and Her Honour Jane Furneaux Crosbie will host a reception at Corner Brook City Hall for invited guests.

From noon to 2:00 p.m., Their Honours invite the public to join them at a Diamond Jubilee Garden Party at Corner Brook City Hall Square, featuring a performance by Sherman Downey and an appearance by the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Mounted Unit. Light refreshments will be served by the Girl Guides.

Government House webpage address: www.govhouse.nl.ca.

WALMART CORRECTION NOTICE

Our flyer distributed on July 11 - 13 and effective July 13 - 19: Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Danby 8,000-BTU Window Air Conditioner (#30060262) will not be available in all stores.

We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Four-vehicle collision



Firefighters from Kent's Pond fire station and Eastern Health paramedics work on removing the driver of this Mazda Protege from his vehicle after he was involved in a four-vehicle accident on Torbay Road near the Major's Path intersection Friday evening. Two ambulances were required to transport the occupants of other vehicles to hospital for medical treatment. The RNC are investigating the cause of the accident. — Photo by Joe Gibbons/The Telegram

OBITUARY

Bell Island icon dies at 100

Born in China, made Newfoundland his home

By ROBIN LEVINSON
SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM

James Yick, who became a beloved Bell Island icon after coming to Newfoundland from China, died peacefully on July 11, just weeks after his 100th birthday. He was surrounded by his family, some of whom conferred in from New Zealand and Vancouver on Skype to say their goodbyes.

Yick was born in Toisun, Canton province in China on June 29, 1912. Surrounded by poverty, he came to Newfoundland in 1932 looking for a better life.

He chose this province because as a British colony, it was not subject to Canada's Chinese Exclusion Act, which kept the Chinese from immigrating to the mainland.

He fell in love with its green hills and rough coasts. A true Newfoundlander, his favourite food was lobster and he loved Screech.

He began working in a laundromat in St. John's for 50 cents a week, saving money to bring his wife, Jean, and baby daughter, Helen, to join him. It was not until Newfoundland joined Confederation in 1949 that he was allowed to sponsor his family to come to Canada.

Once they were reunited, the family grew to include two boys, Wai Sun Jim and Jim.

"Basically came with nothing, just the clothes on his back," said his youngest son, Jim.

He saved money and eventually was able to buy his own general store, Service Store, on Bell Island.

Jim said that as an immigrant, his father was isolated by language and custom for many years. But Yick taught himself English and became an integral part of the Bell Island community.

Gerald Tremblett had known



A young Jim Yick serves a customer in his store on Bell Island. — Submitted photo

Yick for more than 60 years, ever since he was a small boy looking to buy candy in the store.

"Jim Yick treated children the same as he treated adults," Tremblett remembered. "A gentleman in every respect of the world."

Tremblett said that Yick was the most recognizable person on Bell Island. "(He) was to Bell Island what Wayne Gretzky was to hockey."

Over the years his business flourished and he bought property. He

earned a reputation as a generous and careful landlord whose properties were in excellent condition.

"Every time you were looking for something for somebody, he always gave," said Gary Gosine, the mayor of Wabana on Bell Island.

Jim remembers his father as a happy workaholic who needed very little luxury to make him happy.

His wife died in 1988, but Yick worked at the store right up until he was 94.

Jim said his father left only after breaking his hip — and only under duress.

"We basically carried him out of the store."

Jim took over the business, and Yick moved in with him in nearby St. Thomas. But Yick yearned for his home on Bell Island.

"I want to go home to the green," he told Jim.

After the injury, his health went into decline. Although he was no longer spry, he celebrated his 100th birthday surrounded by his large family — including his seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

"I kept telling him, 'You're 100!' And he just smiled and nodded his head," Jim said.

Yick received a certificate celebrating his century of life from St. John's East MP Jack Harris, whose riding includes Bell Island's.

His children and grandchildren had just returned to their homes — some as far away as Vancouver and New Zealand — when they got word from Jim that Yick's health would not improve.

Just days before he took his final breath, his family gathered to say their goodbyes. Jim set up a Skype conference so that Yick could see his faraway family. Although he wasn't used to the technology, he smiled at everyone and acknowledged them, knowing that this was their farewell.

He knew that he was loved, and that his family was strong, Jim said of his father.

Although his whole family misses him, they are proud of his long, full life, he said.

"It's more a cause for celebration," Jim said.

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Cuffer Prize competition now closed

The entries are in and the Cuffer Prize competition for 2012 is now closed.

The Telegram's literary award chair, Pam Frampton, says judges Ramona Dearing, Joan Sullivan and Russell Wangersky are in for a tough time.

"There are many well-established writers among the entrants this year, and the pool of talent is amazing," she said. "I'm also really excited about the number of first-time entrants we've heard from this year — many young writers among them. It's going to be a tough call for the judges, for sure."

Frampton will read all the entries and weed out the top half, which will then go to the judges with the authors' identification information removed, in order to be judged blind.

So, when the judges choose their Top 10 shortlist this fall, they'll have no idea whose work they picked.

"It's a fair, unbiased and exciting process," Frampton said.

The winners will be announced at a gala this fall, with a top prize of \$2,000 for the story judged to be the best. The second-place winner receives \$1,000 and the third-place winner, \$500. An anthology of the best stories from Cuffer Prize 2011 will be launched at the gala, as well.

All shortlisted writers this year will have their stories published in The Telegram and in an anthology to be published by the competition's co-sponsor, Creative Book Publishing.

This is fifth year for The Cuffer Prize, The Telegram's short-fiction competition. All entries are 1,200 words or less, and set in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Past first-place winners are Josh Pennell, Grant Loveys, Chad Pelley and Joel Thomas Hynes.



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